

Mt. Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union Records, 1858-1859

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Maine Women Writers Collection

Abplanalp Library University of New England 716 Stevens Avenue Portland, Maine 04103

cmiller10@une.edu

URL: http://www.une.edu/mwwc

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Summary Information

Repository: Maine Women Writers Collection

Creator: Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union

Title: Mt. Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union records

ID: 0257

Date [inclusive]: 1858-1859

Physical Description: 1 linear foot

Language of the

English

Material:

Preferred Citation

Mt. Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union Records, Maine Women Writers Collection, University of New England, Portland, Maine

Biographical/Historical Note

In 1853, Ann Pamela Cunningham of South Carolina began working under the name "The Southern Matron" to save the home and grave of George Washington from ruin. John A. Washington, greatnephew of Washington, was without the financial means to restore the estate, and both Congress and the State of Virginia had declined the opportunity to purchase the historic landmark. The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union was formed with Cunningham as the organization's first Regent. Margaret Jane Mussey Sweat, a prominent Portland resident, was the Secretary for the Maine chapter. With the help of Vice-Regents and Agents in each state, as well as large contributions from Edward Everett of Massachusetts, \$200,000 had been raised by the end of 1858, enough to purchase the estate. The mission of the association was as follows: "To perpetuate the sacred memory of 'The Father of his Country' and, with loving hands, to guard and protect the hallowed spot where rest his remains. To forever hold, manage and preserve the estate, properties and relics at Mount Vernon, belonging to the Association and, under proper regulation, to open the same to the inspection of all who love the cause of liberty and revere the name of Washington." The Mt. Vernon Ladies' Association continues to maintain the property to this day.

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Collection Scope and Content

This collection contains correspondence relating to fundraising activities, two copies of the Association's newsletter, the Association's constitution and by-laws, and other related material. The bulk of the letters are addressed to Arabella Carter, Agent of the Mt. Vernon Ladies' Association for Oxford County, from Abba Isabella Little, Vice Regent of the Mt. Vernon Ladies' Association for the state of Maine.

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Arrangement

This collection is organized as a single series. Arrangement is chronological by item.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Maine Women Writers Collection

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Access

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Controlled Access Headings

- Historic preservation
- Mount Vernon (Va. : Estate)
- Ephemera
- Correspondence
- Newsletters
- Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union
- Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union
- George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens

General

Processed by:
Cally Gurley
Encoded by:
Laura Taylor

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Collection Inventory

| Title/Description | Instances | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Constitution by-laws of Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union | Box 1 | Folder 01 |
| Promotional sheet | Box 1 | Folder 02 |
| Subscription sheet | Box 1 | Folder 03 |
| White calling card printed 'Mrs Washington' | Box 1 | Folder 04 |

| White calling card printed 'Mrs. Polk of Tennessee' | Box 1 | Folder 05 |
|--|-------|-----------|
| ALS from C. A. Knight to Mr Pidgin. West Peru, 1858 June 13 | Box 1 | Folder 06 |
| Mount Vernon Record, newsletter. Vol. 1 No. 1, 1858 July | Box 1 | Folder 07 |
| Mount Vernon Record, newsletter. Vol. 1 No. 2, 1858 August | Box 1 | Folder 08 |
| ALS from A.I. Little to Mrs. Carter, 1858 August 17 | Box 1 | Folder 09 |
| ALS from A.I. Little to Mrs. Carter, 1858 August 20 | Box 1 | Folder 10 |
| ALS from A.I. Little to Mrs. Carter, 1858 September 3 | Box 1 | Folder 11 |
| ALS from A.I. Little to Mrs. Carter, 1858 September 18 | Box 1 | Folder 12 |
| ALS from A.I. Little to Mrs. Carter, 1858 September 30 | Box 1 | Folder 13 |
| ALS from Eliza A. Dana to Mrs. Carter, 1858 October 18 | Box 1 | Folder 14 |
| ALS from Mrs. Dana to Mrs Carter, 1858 November 1 | Box 1 | Folder 15 |
| ALS from A.I. Little to Mrs. Carter (Arabella - agent for Oxford County), 1858 November 20 | Box 1 | Folder 16 |
| ALS from A.I. Little to Mrs. Carter. Dated Thanksgiving Day, 1858 | Box 1 | Folder 17 |
| ALS from A. I. Little to Mrs. Carter, 1858-1859 December 11-February 1 | Box 1 | Folder 18 |
| ALS from O.G. Anolvz to Mrs. Carter, 1858 December 21 | Box 1 | Folder 19 |
| ALS from "S.F. Watson, Pub. Mt. V. Re." (Publisher Mt. Vernon Record), 1858 December 22 | Box 1 | Folder 20 |
| Envelope addressed to Arabella Carter - Paris Maine, 1859 January 10 | Box 1 | Folder 21 |
| ALS from Eliza Hamlin to Mrs. Carter, 1859 February 8 | Box 1 | Folder 22 |
| ALS from A.I. Little to Mrs. Carter, 1859 February 11 | Box 1 | Folder 23 |
| ALS from Geneva G. Kimball to Mrs. Carter, 1859 February 11 | Box 1 | Folder 24 |
| ALS from A.I. Little to Mrs. Carter, 1859 February 15 | Box 1 | Folder 25 |
| ALS from Eliza Dana to Mrs. Carter, 1859 February 19 | Box 1 | Folder 26 |
| ALS from C. M. Holland to Mrs. Carter, 1859 February 22 | Box 1 | Folder 27 |
| ALS from Carter to Mrs. Dana, three additional notes included, 1859 February 26 | Box 1 | Folder 28 |
| ALS from A.I. Little to Mrs. Carter, 1859 February 28 | Box 1 | Folder 29 |
| ALS from Mary J. Hastings to Mrs. Carter, 1859 March 8 | Box 1 | Folder 30 |
| ALS from L.B. Bridgham to Mrs. Carter, 1859 March 17 | Box 1 | Folder 31 |
| ALS from Eliza Dana to Mrs. Carter, 1859 March 28 | Box 1 | Folder 32 |
| ALS from A.I. Little to Mrs. Carter, 1859 June 27 | Box 1 | Folder 33 |

| Letter to Mrs. Carter - unsigned [from A.I. Little?], 1860 May 14 | Box 1 | Folder 34 |
|---|-------|-----------|
| ALS from A. I. Little to Mrs. Carter, undated | Box 1 | Folder 35 |